

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A device for carbon monoxide removal by selective oxidation, comprising:

carbon monoxide selective oxidation catalyst layers each containing a carbon monoxide selective oxidation catalyst which reduces the concentration of carbon monoxide contained in a gas by oxidation, wherein

said carbon monoxide selective oxidation catalyst layers are serially connected to each other, and

the amount of metallic catalyst contained in each of said carbon monoxide selective oxidation catalyst layers is larger than the amount in the preceding carbon monoxide selective oxidation catalyst layer from the upstream side to the downstream side in the flow direction of said gas,

wherein a temperature controlling unit, an air introduction unit, and a gas mixing unit are provided between the carbon monoxide selective oxidation catalyst layers,

wherein a reformed gas discharged from the temperature controlling unit is introduced into the air introduction unit, the reformed gas being discharged from the air introduction unit into the gas mixing unit, and the reformed gas discharged from the gas mixing unit being introduced into the carbon monoxide selective oxidation catalyst layers as a flow direction of the gas is from an upstream side to a downstream side of the carbon monoxide selective oxidation catalyst layers, and

wherein a cooling medium flows in a direction crossing the flow direction of the gas in the carbon monoxide selective oxidation catalyst.

2. **(Currently Amended)** A device for carbon monoxide removal by selective oxidation according to claim 1, ~~further comprising:~~

~~an air introducing unit, and~~

~~a gas temperature controlling unit, wherein~~

said air introducing unit and said gas temperature controlling unit are disposed at the upstream side of said carbon monoxide selective oxidation catalyst layer in the flow direction of said gas.

3. **(Original)** A device for carbon monoxide removal by selective oxidation according to claim 1, further comprising:

a reactor provided between said carbon monoxide selective oxidation catalyst layers serially connected.

4. **(Original)** A device for carbon monoxide removal by selective oxidation according to claim 2, further comprising:

a reactor provided between said carbon monoxide selective oxidation catalyst layers serially connected.

5. **(Original)** A device for carbon monoxide removal by selective oxidation according to claim 1, further comprising:

a second carbon monoxide selective oxidation catalyst layer connected to said carbon monoxide selective oxidation catalyst layer in a parallel manner.

6. **(Original)** A device for carbon monoxide removal by selective oxidation according to claim 2, further comprising:

a second carbon monoxide selective oxidation catalyst layer connected to said carbon monoxide selective oxidation catalyst layer in a parallel manner.

7. **(Original)** A device for carbon monoxide removal by selective oxidation according to claim 1, wherein said metallic catalyst comprises a precious metal.

8. **(Currently Amended)** A device for carbon monoxide removal by selective oxidation, comprising:

carbon monoxide selective oxidation catalyst layers each containing a carbon monoxide selective oxidation catalyst which reduces the concentration of carbon monoxide contained in a gas by oxidation, wherein

said carbon monoxide selective oxidation catalyst layers are serially connected to each other, and

the length of each of said carbon monoxide selective oxidation catalyst layer is longer than the length of the preceding carbon monoxide selective oxidation catalyst layer from the upstream side to the downstream side in the flow direction of said gas,

wherein a temperature controlling unit, an air introduction unit, and a gas mixing unit are provided between the carbon monoxide selective oxidation catalyst layers,

wherein a reformed gas discharged from the temperature controlling unit is introduced into the air introduction unit, the reformed gas being discharged from the air introduction unit into the gas mixing unit, and the reformed gas discharged from the gas mixing unit being introduced into the carbon monoxide selective oxidation catalyst layers as a flow direction of the gas is from an upstream side to a downstream side of the carbon monoxide selective oxidation catalyst layers, and

wherein a cooling medium flows in a direction crossing the flow direction of the gas in the carbon monoxide selective oxidation catalyst.

9. **(Currently Amended)** A device for carbon monoxide removal by selective oxidation according to claim 8, ~~further comprising:~~

~~an air introducing unit, and~~

~~a gas temperature controlling unit, wherein~~

said air introducing unit and said gas temperature controlling unit are disposed at the upstream side of said carbon monoxide selective oxidation catalyst layer.

10. **(Original)** A device for carbon monoxide removal by selective oxidation according to claim 8, further comprising:

a reactor provided between said carbon monoxide selective oxidation catalyst layers serially connected.

11. **(Original)** A device for carbon monoxide removal by selective oxidation according to claim 9, further comprising:

a reactor provided between said carbon monoxide selective oxidation catalyst layers serially connected.

12. **(Original)** A device for carbon monoxide removal by selective oxidation according to claim 8, further comprising:

a second carbon monoxide selective oxidation catalyst layer connected to said carbon monoxide selective oxidation catalyst layer in a parallel manner.

13. **(Original)** A device for carbon monoxide removal by selective oxidation according to claim 9, further comprising:

a second carbon monoxide selective oxidation catalyst layer connected to said carbon monoxide selective oxidation catalyst layer in a parallel manner.

14. **(Original)** A device for carbon monoxide removal by selective oxidation according to claim 8, wherein said metallic catalyst comprises a precious metal.

15. **(Withdrawn)** A carbon monoxide selective oxidation removing method in which the concentration of carbon monoxide contained in a gas is reduced by making said gas pass through a plurality of carbon monoxide selective oxidation catalyst layers, the method comprising:

a first step in which said gas is passed through a first carbon monoxide selective oxidation catalyst layer including a relatively small amount of a metallic catalyst; and

a second step carried out subsequently to said first step in which said gas is passed through a second carbon monoxide selective oxidation catalyst layer including a relatively large amount of a metallic catalyst.

16. **(Withdrawn)** A carbon monoxide selective oxidation removing method according to claim 15, further comprising steps of:

introducing an air into said gas and adjusting the temperature of said gas prior to said first step; and

introducing an air into said gas and adjusting the temperature of said gas prior to said second step.

17. **(Withdrawn)** A carbon monoxide selective oxidation removing method according to claim 15, wherein said metallic catalyst comprises a precious metal.

18. **(Withdrawn)** A carbon monoxide selective oxidation removing method in which the concentration of carbon monoxide contained in a gas is reduced by making said gas pass through a plurality of carbon monoxide selective oxidation catalyst layers, comprising:

a first step in which said gas is passed through a first carbon monoxide selective oxidation catalyst layer having a relatively short length in the flow direction of said gas;
and

a second step carried out subsequently to said first step in which said gas is passed through a second carbon monoxide selective oxidation catalyst layer having a relatively long length in the flow direction of said gas.

19. **(Withdrawn)** A carbon monoxide selective oxidation removing method according to claim 18, further comprising steps of:

introducing an air into said gas and adjusting the temperature of said gas prior to said first step; and

introducing an air into said gas and adjusting the temperature of said gas prior to said second step.